

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-34 (cancelled)

35. (currently amended) An ostomy device for sealing a stoma, said device being situated entirely externally to the body and comprising recess defining means; adhesive means adapted to surround the stoma for securing said recess defining means to the body ~~proximate~~ surrounding the stoma; and stoma covering means, situated externally to the body, over the stoma, within said recess defining means, and comprising a continuous, uninterrupted member adapted to prevent passage of liquid and solid material through the stoma when pressed against the stoma, said recess defining means defining, with said stoma covering means, a chamber, said chamber comprising a fluid entrance port and being situated over said stoma covering means, said chamber being pressurizable with fluid through said fluid entrance port to press said stoma covering means against the stoma and further comprising means for sealing said fluid entrance port to prevent the fluid from escaping said chamber after it is pressurized.

36. (previously presented) The device of Claim 35 wherein said stoma covering means comprises a flexible membrane.

37. (previously presented) The device of Claim 35 wherein said stoma covering means has an edge and wherein said edge is fixed to the interior of said recess defining means.

38. (previously presented) The device of Claim 35 further comprising means for pressurizing said chamber.

39. (cancelled)

40. (previously presented) The device of Claim 35 wherein said fluid entrance port comprises an inlet port and said sealing means comprises a one-way valve associated with said port.

41. (previously presented) The device of Claim 38 wherein said pressurizing means comprises pump means integral with said recess defining means.

42. (previously presented) The device of Claim 38 wherein said pressurizing means comprises flexible means affixed to said recess defining means, said flexible means having a variable volume which can be reduced by the application of pressure on said flexible means and said entrance port connects said flexible means and said chamber .

43. (previously presented) The device of Claim 42 wherein said sealing means comprises a one-way valve associated with said entrance port.

44. (previously presented) The device of Claim 35 further comprising means for limiting the pressure in said chamber.

45. (previously presented) The device of Claim 44 wherein said pressure limiting means comprises a pressure relief valve.

46. (currently amended) The device of Claim 35 in combination with an external pressurization device.

47. (previously presented) The device of Claim 35 further comprising venting means in said recess defining means.

48. (previously presented) The device of Claim 47 wherein said venting means comprises an outlet port and an gas filtration means associated with said outlet port.

49. (previously presented) The device of Claim 35 wherein said recess defining means and said stoma covering means define a second chamber therebetween and further comprising gas filtration means operably connected to said second chamber.

50. (previously presented) The device of Claim 35 wherein said securing means comprises means for engaging said recess defining means and means for adhering said engaging means to the tissue surrounding the stoma.

51. (previously presented) The device of Claim 50 wherein said engaging means comprises means for removably engaging said recess defining means.

52. (previously presented) The device of Claim 35 for use in combination with waste collection means.

53. (previously presented) The device of Claim 52 wherein said waste collection means comprises a collection pouch.

54. (previously presented) The device of Claim 52 wherein said waste collection means has an end connected to said securing means.

55. (previously presented) The device of Claim 52 wherein said waste collection means is collapsible.

56. (previously presented) The device of Claim 52 wherein said waste collection means has a concertina-like configuration.

57. (previously presented) The device of Claim 52 wherein said waste collection means comprises a collection pouch, said pouch comprising a flexible wall having first and second ends fixed between said recess defining means and said securing means, respectively.

58. (previously presented) The device of Claim 57 wherein said collection pouch is

elongated.

59. (currently amended) An ostomy device for sealing a stoma, said device being situated entirely externally to the body and comprising recess defining means; adhesive means adapted to surround the stoma for securing said recess defining means ~~proximate~~ to the body surrounding the stoma; and stoma covering means, situated within said recess defining means, and comprising a member adapted to prevent passage of liquid and solid material through the stoma when pressed against the stoma, said recess defining means defining, with said member, a chamber with a sealable fluid entrance port, said chamber being situated over said stoma covering means and pressurizable through said fluid entrance port to press said member against the stoma.

60. (currently amended) An ostomy device for sealing a stoma comprising recess defining means; adhesive means surrounding the stoma for securing said recess defining means to the body ~~proximate~~ surrounding the stoma; and stoma covering means, situated within said recess defining means, and comprising a continuous, uninterrupted member adapted to prevent the passage of liquid or solid material through the stoma when pressed against the stoma, said recess defining means defining, with said stoma covering means, a chamber with a sealable fluid entrance port, said chamber being situated over said stoma covering means and pressurizable through said fluid entrance port to press said member against the stoma.